ちはやふる

Poem 180

HEY, RION, WHERE ARE YOU G---

!?

the win by default squad

HEY.

SLOW

I SAID HEY!

末次由紀

DONT TELL ME YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO SHIZUOKA TO FETCH YOUR BENTOU

JUST BECAUSE YOU HAPPENED TO GET THROUGH THE FIRST ROUND ON A WIN BY DEFAULT?

WHY ARE YOU SO FIXATED ON IT, PRAY TELL?

ARE YOU FOR REAL?

YOU CAN'T EAT ONIGIRI UNLESS THEY'RE HAND-MADE?

IN THAT CASE WE'LL FIX UP SOME FOR YOU FROM SUGAR RICE AND NORI.

Oh yes. I'm always ready to knead.

WHAT SHAPE DO YOU PREFER? ROUND? RECTANGULAR? SQUARE?

There's a convenience store nearby...

AND WHAT FILLING? SALMON? PICKLED PLUM? TUNA...?

G...

FUJISAKI

WITH ALL KINDS OF FILLINGS IN THE WEE HOURS OF THE MORNING...

GRAND-MOTHER WAS MAKING

THOSE ONIGIRI FOR ME FROM NEW RICE

SO SHE MADE THAT BENTOU FOR ME TO ENCOURAGE ME TO DO MY BEST IN THIS QUALIFIER...

SHE'S GOING TO RETIRE

AS A READER THIS YEAR,

YOU CANNOT WIN WITHOUT RELAYING ON SOMETHING THAT TRIFFLE?

IS THAT WHAT I TAUGHT YOU?

READER YAMA-SHIRO IS GOING TO...

GLIISAKI

BUT RION, HE HAS A POINT, YOU KNOW.

YOUR MONKEYING DOESN'T LOOK OR SOUND ANYTHING LIKE THE SENSEI!

NO!

OUR PRIDE AS THE INVINCIBLE FUJISAKI---

FUJISAKI

PLAYING WITHOUT YOUR BENTOU IS A TEST OF YOUR TRUE ABILITY, TOO!

SAKURAZAWA-SENSEI WILL GIVE YOU HELL IF YOU DROP OUT OVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

GO BACK TO THE HALL.

4

WELL,

CAN RION PLAY LIKE THAT THOUGH ...?

FUJISAKI

FUJISAKI

FUJISAKI

IT'S HER OWN FAULT, IN ANY CASE.

FETCH THE BENTOU THERE AND BRING IT HERE.

GO TO RION'S HOUSE, ON THE DOUBLE. THE ADDRESS IS FUJIMI TOWN, 2ND STREET, X.

I HAVE AN IMPORTANT MISSION FOR YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE FROM THE KARUTA CLUB, I DON'T CARE WHO.

AKIRA?

THE DUDE'S SCARY!

HE MEMORIZED IT PERFECTLY.

AH, HE KNOWS HER ADDRESS.

はっ

はっ

U-

kari keru~

AH!

SHE'S COMPLETELY FLUSTERED.

WASN'T AYASE-SAN THE CAPTAIN OF MIZUSAWA?

WHY IS SHE PANICKING SO MUCH...

Karuta Win!

.....

GOSH ...!

D-

DOUBLE FAULT...

AH, SORRY!

ISN'T THAT OUR CARD?

OUR SET IS MARKED "O" THOUGH.

THEN WHERE DID THE CARD FROM OUR Q SET GO ...?

カタ
Nani-
wa-
ドカ
e
no~
あはてこ
よをすく
てよとや

YOU CAN'T SWEEP LIKE THAT UNLESS YOU'VE PRACTICED A LOT.

SUCH A FLUID CROSS SWEEP.

WHO IS SHE?

'NANIWAE' ON THE RIGHT, AND 'NANIWA GA' ON THE LEFT.

IT WAS IN MY OWN FORMATION, SO I MANAGED TO TAKE IT CLEANLY AND BEAUTIFULLY.

IT HAS BEEN READ THIS EARLY. GOOD.

SHE'S LOSING BY 4 CARDS ALREADY THIS EARLY?

IS SHE THAT HUNGRY?

IT'S BECAUSE SHE EATS ONLY CHOCOLATE.

I TOLD HER, RICE IS BEST, RICE IS WHAT YOU SHOULD EAT!

.....

AYASE-SAN...

ON THE KOURIN KARUTA CARDS THE NANIWAE POEM IS ON THE RIGHT, AND THE NANIWA GA POEM ON THE LEFT.

Writing goes from right to left

Writing goes from left to right

NATURALLY REMINDED ME OF A CERTAIN SOMEONE.

SEEING THAT PRETTY CROSS SWEEP

ビュウッ

9

I THOUGHT AYASE-SAN...

...WAS SOMEONE CAPABLE OF FOCUSING WHEN IT COUNTS.

.....

IS SHE THE TYPE TO GROW WEAKER WITHOUT HER TEAM AROUND?

.....

OOOOUGH...

ビリッ

THE SPLIT IN MY TOE NAIL GOT WORSE FROM GETTING CAUGHT ON THE TATAMI FLOORING...

OH.

OHHHH ~~~~~

I WAS ALWAYS BAD AT MAKING FRIENDS...

Karuta Win!

BUT YOUR COMPA-TIBILITY AGAINST HER ISN'T BAD.

YOU MAY GET THE CHANCE TO EVOLVE, EVEN.

SO DO YOUR BEST.

HAYAMI-SAN, HOW IS IT GOING FOR YOU?

FACING AYASE-SAN IN THE VERY FIRST ROUND MUST BE TOUGH...

I LOVED PRACTICING CALLIGRAPHY QUIETLY BY MYSELF,

BUT IMPROVING IN IT BECAME DIFFICULT

BECAUSE ALL THE MODELS I HAD ACCESS TO WERE ALWAYS BORING.

Wrote whatever she wanted because those were boring →

← boring

120 THOUS-AND?!

HONEY, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?! WHEN DID YOU...?!

SETSUNA, I BEG YOU, DON'T TOUCH THEM~~~!

IT'S PRICED AT 120 THOU-SAND YEN---

IT'S A VERY VALUABLE REPRINT OF OGATA KOURIN'S HYAKUNIN ISSHU.

SETSUNA, YOU CAN'T HAVE THAT.

SO PRETTY ...

BUT THEN I FOUND THE GORGEOUS HYAKUNIN ISSHU CARDS IN OUR STOREHOUSE ....

Entrance Ceremony
京都市立御所内高等学校
下京

C'MON~

PLAY COMPETITIVE KARUTA WITH US! IT'S FUN!

SETSUNA, WHY DID YOU HAVE TO TAKE SUCH A LIKING TO THEM?

JUST GIVE UP ALREADY, HONEY.

BUT THAT'S 120 THOUSAND YEN RIGHT THERE !

SO I USED THEM AS MODELS TO COPY

THE BEAUTIFUL CARDS I WAS NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH.

So this is read "summer", huh...

AND MADE A LOT OF REPLICAS OF THE REPLICA.

Bad at drawing

Sticking them on a piece of cardboard

THE HYAKUNIN ISSHU.

ALTHOUGH MEMORIZING ALL THE HYAKUNIN ISSHU POEMS MAY BE DIFFICULT.

COMPETITIVE KARUTA.

KARUTA.

IN CALLIGRAPHY...

MY HAND

...THE MOMENT THE BRUSH TOUCHES THE PAPER, THE LETTER LYING AHEAD OF IT IS DETERMINED.

IS LINKED TO THE CARDS FROM THE FIRST STROKE.

EH?

NO, NOT QUITE.

IT CAN'T BE EXPLAINED WITH JUST THE GOOD GAME SENSE.

瑞沢

DOES SHE HAVE VERY SHARP EARS?

OR IS IT HER GAME SENSE?

I CAN'T BELIEVE

THAT AYASE-SAN IS

IN SO MUCH DANGER?

HER AIM IS PRECISE.

YUMI-SAN...

WHAT?

EH?

YOU CALL IT THE SENSE FOR THE GAME...

IT HAS A LOT MORE TO DO WITH THINGS LIKE COMPLETION OF INFORMATION AT HAND OR THE PROFOUNDNESS OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE THAN SENSE

EH?

...BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S CORRECT.

A FOURTH PLACE FINISH, HUH. YOU WERE CLOSE

WHAT A SHAME, EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE THE SENSE FOR THE GAME

Ah ha ha

WHAT SHOULD WE EAT ON OUR WAY BACK?

MY LEGS HURT!

I LOST IN THE FIRST ROUND

WHO TRIED WRITING ALL THE 100 POEMS WITH THEIR OWN HAND AT LEAST ONCE?

SENPAIS, IS THERE ANYONE AMONG YOU

EH?

I'M SORRY THEN.

PLAIN

I'M ON THE ADMINISTATION BOARD

I EVEN GAVE A SPEECH AT THE OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES .

HUH?

UGH.

WHO WOULD YOU BE?

UM, EXCUSE ME.

I THINK YOU WOULD BENEFIT FROM A MORE INVENTIVE FORMATION.

FOR YOUR TAKES NOT TO BE JUST RANDOM AND DEPENDING ON LUCK,

IF MEMORY SERVES,

SHE IS YAMAMOTO YUMI-SAN.

WHO HELD THE TITLE FOR ONLY 1 YEAR.

A FORMER QUEEN

"AIM ..."

お

Wa-

ta

Karuta Win!

'WATA NO HARA' HAS ALREADY BECOME A 2-SYLLABLE CARD.

AH...

AYASE-SAN

CAN'T CAPITALIZE ON HER ATTACKS ON THE LOWER RIGHT ROW OF THE ENEMY FORMATION.

THE LOWER RIGHT ROW AND UPPER LEFT ROW OF MY FORMATION.

CHECK!

Karuta Win!

WITH YOUR ALREADY PECULIAR RESPONSE SPEED, TO 2-3 SYLLABLE CARDS

AND WITH UNIQUE TARGET ZONES ADDED TO THE MIX,

THESE SPOTS AREN'T USUALLY TARGETED.

YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEIZE THE INITIATIVE NO MATTER WHO YOUR OPPONENT MAY BE.

SHE'S GOING TO LOSE ...?!

DON'T TELL ME

EXCUSE ME.

.....

AYASE-SAN!

7-16, A 9 CARD GAP!

CAN I ASK, YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO ACCIDENTALLY HAVE AN EXTRA BAND-AID YOU CAN SHARE?

NO, I DO NOT.

IS SOMETHING WRONG?

FIGURES YOU WOULDN'T. HOW SILLY OF MEEEE.

AH, NO, NOTHING MUCH.

JUST UNDER-PREPARED, IS ALL...

Ow-ow-ow

FUH

19

FUH

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU PRACTICE,

UNSTEADY FOOTING IS ALL IT TAKES FOR THE INITIATIVE TO GET STOLEN FROM YOU.

A 10 CARD DIFFERENCE...

KARUTA REALLY IS SCARY.

IF I LOSE HERE, IT WILL BE THE END OF THE ROAD FOR ME.

ON YOUR PROMISE THIS TIME.

BE SURE TO MAKE GOOD

WWAAA

ki
ka~
ze

A~

AH!

mi~

I WENT FOR THE WRONG CARD!

FAST!

YET HER HEARING IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR HER TO GO STRAIGHT FOR AN 'AKI' CARD ON THE 'A' VOWEL ALREADY.

'AMATSU' AND 'AKE' ARE STILL ON THE PLAYING FIELD,

秋 aki

writing it instinctively

Karuta

EVEN THOUGH I'M SUPPOSED TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO BOTH CARDS THAT STARK WITH AKI, 'AKI NO' AND 'AKI KA', AS TO NOT CONFUSE THEM!

THAT MISTAKE LOOKED LIKE SOMETHING A BEGINNER WOULD MAKE

BUT...

FUH

KARUTA IS SCARY...

IT'S SO MUCH FUN!

...BUT AT THE SAME TIME

I'LL ASK HER ABOUT IT LATER

はっ

I'M STARTLED!

ビクッ

SHE MADE IT BACK JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME!

TOO CLOSE ~~~

I GOT TOO FOCUSED ON THE LOWER RIGHT ROW.

AS TO ME,

I...

TO ASK HER ABOUT HOW SHE HEARS THE CARDS...

Kanata Miu!

HOW SHE PERCEIVES THEM..!

Kanata

I NEED TO REMEMBER TO ASK HER LATER.

to ni

ki ku~

Se wo hayami~

Aki no ta no~

BESIDES THE 7 PROPERLY ONE-SYLLABLE CARDS THAT IS, MU-SU-ME-FU-SA HO-SE.

IN THE SECOND HALF OF A GAME MANY OTHER CARDS BECOME ONE-SYLLABLE, TOO

AH!

AYASE-SAN IS VERY FAST WITH THE TRUE ONE-SYLLABLE CARDS, AS EXPECTED.

BUT SHE STILL HAS A 7 CARD GAP TO BREACH.

ESPECIALLY SEEING HOW 'AKE' AND 'AMATSU' ARE STILL IN THE GAME. AWW GOSH~

SHE REALLY GOES INTO ACTION ON THE 'A' SOUND ALONE. THAT'S INCREDIBLE~

Sabishisa

ni

GOTTA BE CAREFUL.

THERE ARE ALSO 1 DEAD CARDS WITH 'TA' - 'TARE' AND 'TAKI'.

SPECIAL CARE IS IN ORDER WITH THE 'TA' CARDS

'TAGO', 'TACHI', AND THE OTHERS

GOTTA CAREFULLY CONFIRM THE DECISIVE SYLLABLE

GOTTA PAY CLOSE ATTENTION.

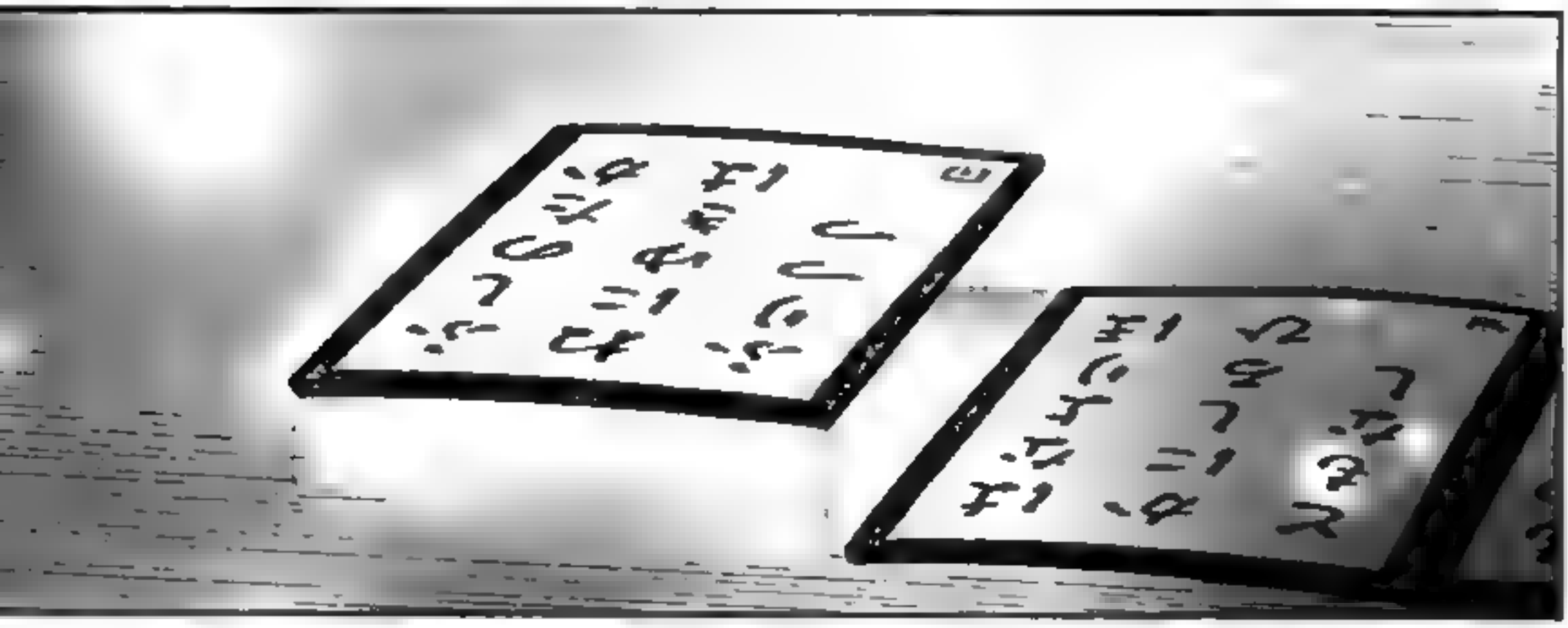
I CAN'T AFFORD TO COMMIT FAULTS

FUH

FUH

FUH

FUH

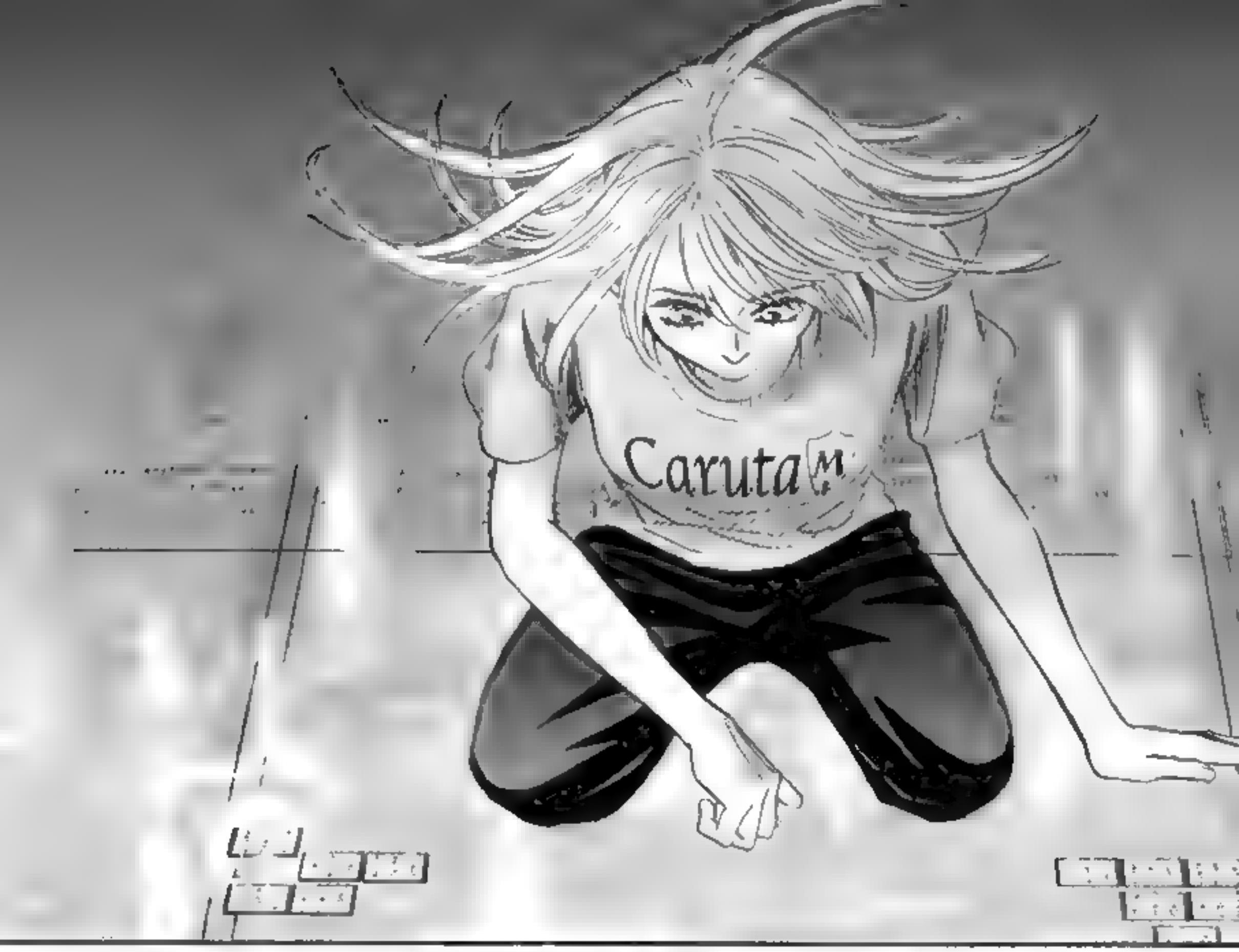


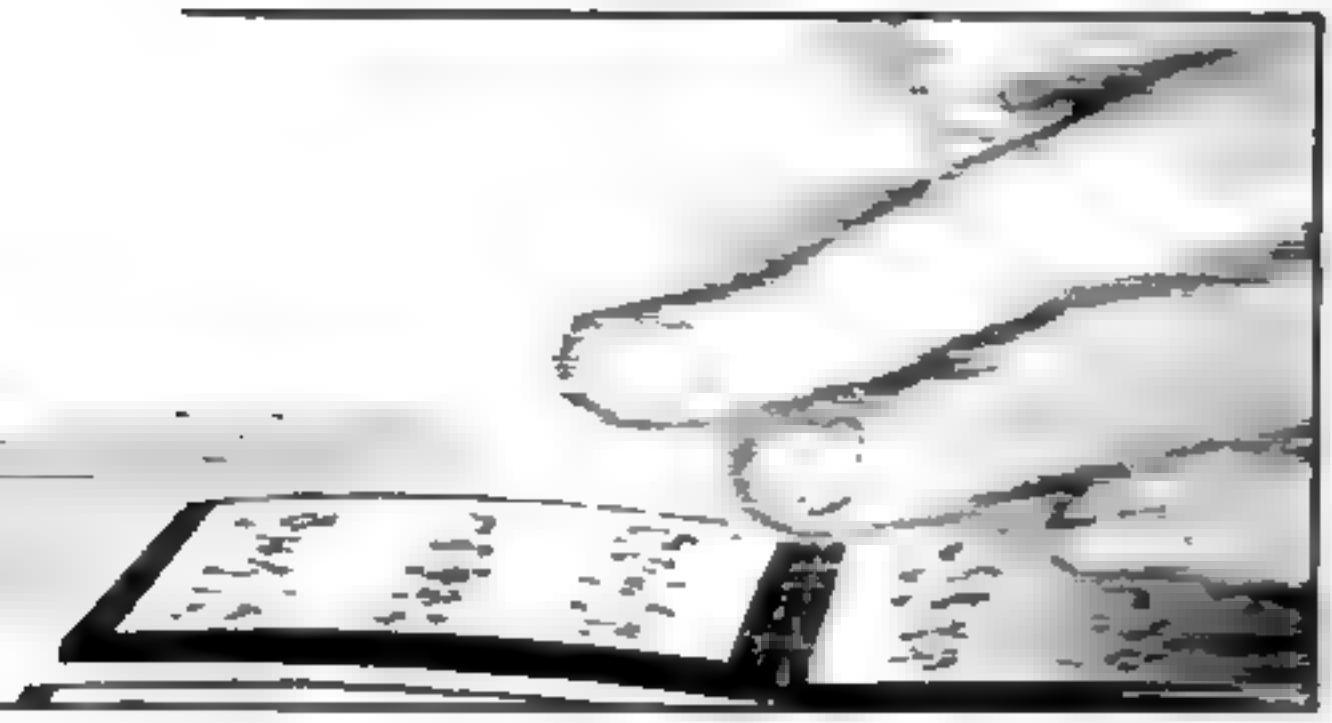
EH?

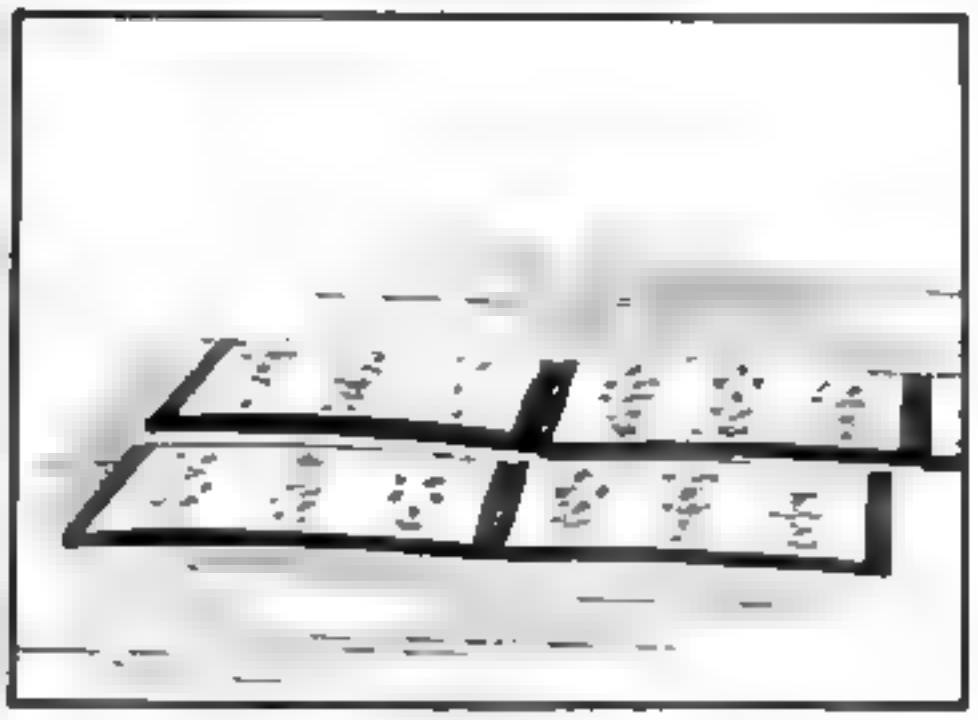
EH ...?

Kanata-chin!

NO Ura ni~


Caruta





Fuku kara ni~

HOW DO YOU PERCEIVE THE CARDS?

HAYAMI-SAN,

Karuta win!

AS TO ME...

I SEE THE CARD THAT'S ABOUT TO BE READ FLOAT BEFORE MY EYES.

BUT SOME-TIMES

I KNOW NO ONE WILL BELIEVE ME,

FUJISAKI

LIKE, YOU KNOW, IN MATH WE HAVE THE XY GRID.

AND FOR NORMAL KARUTA IT LOOKS LIKE THIS:

Y AXIS

X AXIS

AND THERE...

Karuta Win!

...I SOMETIMES SEE IT.

THE Z AXIS, THAT IS...

TDX Release
Chihayafuru
SPECIAL THANKS
Redrawing:
Nazo no Seibutsu